



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**Patent and Trademark Office**

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SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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E6M1/1129

EXAMINER	
POPE, D	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2617

2

11/29/96

DATE MAILED:

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.  
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

- ☒ This application has been examined ☐ Responsive to communication filed on \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ This action is made final.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), 0 days from the date of this letter.  
Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. 35 U.S.C. 133

**Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892. | 2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsman's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Art Cited by Applicant, PTO-1449.                 | 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152.                  |
| 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes, PTO-1474.     | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> _____  |

**Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION**

1. ☒ Claims 1-24 are pending in the application.  
Of the above, claims \_\_\_\_\_ are withdrawn from consideration.
2. ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ have been cancelled.
3. ☒ Claims 20-24 are allowed.
4. ☒ Claims 1-19 are rejected.
5. ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are objected to.
6. ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.
7. ☐ This application has been filed with Informal drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.85 which are acceptable for examination purposes.
8. ☐ Formal drawings are required in response to this Office action.
9. ☐ The corrected or substitute drawings have been received on \_\_\_\_\_. Under 37 C.F.R. 1.84 these drawings are ☐ acceptable; ☐ not acceptable (see explanation or Notice of Draftsman's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948).
10. ☐ The proposed additional or substitute sheet(s) of drawings, filed on \_\_\_\_\_, has (have) been ☐ approved by the examiner; ☐ disapproved by the examiner (see explanation).
11. ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed \_\_\_\_\_, has been ☐ approved; ☐ disapproved (see explanation).
12. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. 119. The certified copy has ☐ been received ☐ not been received  
☐ been filed in parent application, serial no. \_\_\_\_\_; filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
13. ☐ Since this application appears to be in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.
14. ☐ Other

EXAMINER'S ACTION

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Part III DETAILED ACTION

ART REJECTION:

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103 which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under subsection (f) or (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

2. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Bashan et al(5,339,000) in view of Carter(5,373,282).

-- In considering claim 1, the claimed subject matter that is met by Bashan et al(Bashan) includes:

1) the claimed first data transceiver is met by the portable parking tag(11, figure 1, column 7, lines 36-46);

2) the claimed second data transceiver is met by the reading device(12, figure 1, column 9, lines 46-59).

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**- Bashan does not show:**

- 1) the claimed central processor;
- 2) the claimed second transceiver outputting in response to command from the central processor.

Bashan does teach the reading device including a host interface(34) which allows interaction with a central computer(see: column 6, lines 14-26). Use of a reading device in communication with a central computer is well known in the art

In related art, Carter shows a vehicle monitoring system in which vehicle related data is read from a vehicle and transmitted to a central computer(see: abstract). Since Bashan suggests use of a remote computer for implementing commands for accessing vehicle information, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement the central computer of Carter into the system of Bashan, for the purpose of retrieving information pertaining to the vehicle which is being interrogated.

-- In considering claim 2, since the central computer would have constituted a remote computer as suggested by Bashan(see: column 6, lines 21-22), it would have been obvious that the central computer would have been located at a vehicle return station located remotely from the first and second data transceivers.

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As well, all other claimed subject matter is met as discussed with reference to the discussion of claim 1 above.

-- In considering claims 3-4, although use of a server for interconnecting the first and second data transceivers, and the central processor is not specifically shown, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement some form of server into the system of Bashan in view of Carter, since each of the devices are located separate from each other, and a server would have facilitated the communicative interaction between each of these devices. As well, use of wireless communication links for transmitting information is well known in the art, and therefore would have provided a suitable communication link in the system of Bashan in view of Carter.

As well, all other claimed subject matter is met as discussed with reference to the discussion of claim 1 above.

-- Claim 5 recites subject matter that was met as discussed with reference to the discussion of claim 1 above, as well as:

1) the claimed output is met by the portable printer(28, figure 1), and the display(31, figure 1, column 6, lines 8-20).

-- Claim 6 recites subject matter that was met as discussed with reference to the discussion of claim 5 above(see: printer(28), Bashan et al, figure 1).

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-- Claims 7 and 8 recite subject matter that was met as discussed with reference to the discussion of claim 1 above, except for:

- 1) the claimed transceiver including a scanner(claim 7);
- 2) the claimed identification data comprising bar code data read by a scanner.

Use of scanners and bar code readers for reading data to be stored in a vehicle parking management system is well known in the art, and therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement a scanner comprising a bar code data reader into the transceiver of Bashan, since this would have facilitated the implementation of vehicle data by the transceiver.

-- In considering claims 9 and 10, since vehicle license plate data is a well known means of providing vehicle identification data, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to utilize license plate data, which would have also included driver identification data, as a means to identify vehicles in the system of Bashan in view of Carter since Bashan already teaches reading the license plate number for retrieving information(see: Bashan, column 6, lines 21-26).

As well, all other claimed subject matter is met as discussed with reference to the discussion of claim 1 above.

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-- Claim 11 recites subject matter that was met as discussed with reference to the discussion of claim 1 above, as well as:

1) the claimed data comprising parking spot location data is met(see: Bashan, column 8, lines 29-32).

-- Claim 12 recites a method that is met as discussed with reference to the discussion of the apparatus of claim 1-2, and 5 above.

-- In considering claim 13, upon implementation of a bar code scanner as discussed with reference to the discussion of claims 7-8 above, it would have been obvious to scan data from a ticket or some other means to provide identification data of a vehicle, since use of ticket as identification data to be scanned is well known in the art.

As well, all other claimed subject matter is met as discussed with reference to the discussion of claim 12 above.

-- In considering claims 14-16, and 18 upon implementation of the bar code scanner as discussed with reference to claims 7-8 above, it would have been obvious re-enter bar code data(claim 14), scan in vehicle identification data(claim 15), scanning data remotely from the step of entering identification data(claim 16), and entering valet attendant identification data and space identification data(claim 18), since these methods are well known in the art of inventory by utilizing bar code scanners, and

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therefore would have facilitated the overall inventory of vehicles in the system of Bashan in view of Carter.

As well, all other claimed subject matter is met as discussed with reference to the discussion of claim 12 above.

-- Claim 17 recites subject matter that was met as discussed with reference to the discussion of claim 12 above (see: Bashan, column 6, lines 8-13).

-- Claim 19 recites subject matter that was met as discussed with reference to the discussion of claims 1-2 above, as well as:

1) the claimed means for generating financial and employee performance evaluation reports is met (see: column 6, lines 21-26).

#### *Allowable Subject Matter*

3. Claims 20-24 are allowable over the prior art of record.

#### *Conclusion*

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daryl C. Pope whose telephone number is (703) 305-4838. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th from 6:30-4:00, and 6:30-3:00 every other Friday.

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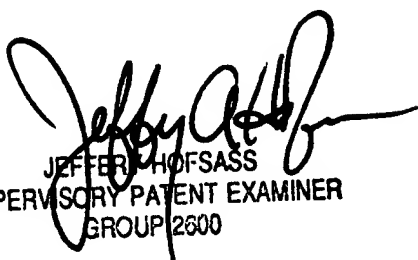
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeff Hofsass, can be reached on (703) 305-4717. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-3988.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-8576.

Daryl C. Pope

*D.C.P.*  
Nov. 23, 1996

  
JEFF HOFSSASS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
GROUP 2600